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"Express Mail" Label No. : EV 127 538 034 US
Serial No. : 10/645,996
Applicant(s) : Lloyd Harmon Hancock et al.
Filing Date : August 22, 2003
Title: : Equipment and Methods for Manufacturing Cigarettes
Examiner : Unknown
Group Art Unit : Unknown
Type of Document(s) : Express Mail Certificate;
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Preliminary Amendment (4 pgs.); and
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Carol McCabe (signature)
Carol McCabe

Date Mailed: September 19, 2003



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PTO/SB/21 (05-03)

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| TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Application Number | 10/645,996 | |
| | Filing Date | August 22, 2003 | |
| | First Named Inventor | Lloyd Harmon Hancock et al. | |
| | Art Unit | Unknown | |
| | Examiner Name | Unknown | |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | 4 | Attorney Docket Number | 00568-286924 |

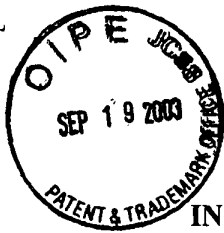
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| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Firm or Individual name | J. Michael Boggs, Reg. No. 46,563 |
| Signature | |
| Date | 9/19/03 |

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EV 127 538 034 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Serial No. : 10/645,996
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Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.